NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, (Agricultural Warehouse.)—ALLEN PUTNAM, EDITOR.

VOL. XIX.] BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 10, 1841. [NO. 32.

N. E. FARMER.

FRUIT TREES.

We publish a report made in the Senate of this State, on the rights of neighboring proprietors, where fruit trees growing in the land of one, overhangs the land of another. The subject was referred to the Judiciary Committee, and when offered, it was remarked by a Senator, that the difficulty though apparently a small one, was frequently recurring, and ought to be settled. The Committee, however, report that the subject has frequently been before the courts in England and this country, and although there have been no adjudications on the question in this State, the law is so well settled, that no special legislation is needed. We find by the report, which is very learned and elaborate, that the subject has elicited as much controversy among the authorities of the Roman law as of the Common law, and that it was thought of sufficient importance to be regulated by distinct enactments, by the framers of the Code Napoleon. The report contains information which is not only curious, but will be useful to those who may have occasion to make a practical application of it.—*Boston Daily Advertiser.*

In Senate, Jan. 22, 1841.

The Committee on the Judiciary, who were directed to consider and report, whether any provision by law ought to be made in regard to the owners of adjacent lands, as to fruit and other trees standing near the boundary lines of such lands, ask leave to

REPORT.

The question whether any action of the Legislature is necessary to declare or vary the rights of adjoining proprietors, on whose lands are trees, which, growing on the land of one proprietor, overhang the land of the other, necessarily involves an inquiry into the present state of the law upon this subject. No case directly involving that law, has ever, to the knowledge of your Committee, been decided in this Commonwealth; but there have been elsewhere decisions sufficient in number, in authority, and in conclusiveness of reasoning, to indicate what would be the result if such a case should occur in our own courts.

There is an apparent discrepancy among the earlier English authorities in relation to this subject. In the case of Waterman vs. Soper, 1 Lord Raymond's Reports, 737, decided in 1697, and in an anonymous case in 2 Rolle's Reports, 255, decided in the 20th year of the reign of James I., it was held, that if A plant a tree upon the extremest limits of his land, and the tree growing extend its roots into the land of B, next adjoining, A and B are tenants in common of this tree. But if all the root grows in the land of A, though the boughs overshadow the land of B, yet the branches follow the root, and the property of the whole is in A.—Probably from these cases, in connexion with the well known maxim, "Whosoever owns the ground, it is his up to the sky," originated the impression which is so universal among the people of this Commonwealth, that the proprietor whose land is overhung by fruit trees, has a right to all the fruit on the overhanging branches.

But these cases are distinctly, and for good reasons, overruled by other authorities, both English and American.

In Masters vs. Pollie, 2 Rolle's Reports, 141, decided in the 17th year of James I., it was held that if a tree grow in A's close, though the roots grow in B's soil, yet the body of the tree being in A's soil, the tree belongs to him; and this last case is cited with approbation, and commented upon as overruling the two first, in Holder vs. Coates, 1st Moody and Malkin's Reports, 112, decided in England in 1827; in which case it was again held, that "if a tree grows near the confines of land of two parties, so that the roots extend into the soil of each, the property in the tree belongs to the owner of that land in which the tree was first sown or planted."

In Dane's Digest, vol. 3, ch. 76, art. 8, sec. 18, the case of Waterman vs. Soper is cited, and the compiler states his belief that the principle of that case is not adopted in this country.

In Lyman vs. Hale, 11 Connecticut Reports, 177, decided in 1836, after an argument in which all the learning of the subject was exhausted, it was held that "if a tree, the trunk of which stands on the land of A, extend some of its branches over, and some of its roots into, the land of B, A and B are not joint owners or tenants in common of such tree, but it is, with such overhanging branches and the fruit thereof, the sole property of A; and if B gather the fruit from such overhanging branches, and appropriate it to his own use, he is liable in trespass to A.

Your Committee have found no case where it was ever contended to be law, that the property in overhanging branches or fruit passed to the proprietor of the land which they overhung, unless the roots also drew some part of their sustenance from the same land; and it is now well settled that in all cases the fruit and branches "follow the settlement" of the body of the tree. The man who allows the branches of his tree to overhang his neighbor's field, undoubtedly commits a wrong; but he does not thereby lose his title to those branches, any more than he would lose his title to his cattle by their being found trespassing, through his negligence, upon his neighbor's field.

A proprietor of land has a right to undisturbed possession of earth and air, from the limits of his own ground to the sky; but it by no means follows that he shall acquire the ownership of every thing which interrupts or trespasses upon his possession.

The title, then, to the whole tree is in the proprietor on whose land is the trunk. But the proprietor who permits his tree to overshadow or to draw nourishment from his neighbor's land, does that neighbor an injury, and permits a nuisance, for which there are obvious and easy remedies. In Morrice vs. Baker, 3 Bulstrode, 198, decided in the 14th year of James I., it was remarked by Justice Croke, "one may cut down boughs if they hang over his ground." The court of Connecticut, in the case of Lyman vs. Hale, already cited, held the same doctrine. The suggestion of Judge Croke is also quoted as good law by Mr Chitty, an English law writer of high authority, in his General Practice, 1, 653. "But," he adds, "it would seem that there ought to be a previous request to the neighbor to abate the nuisance, before I proceed to abate it myself."

It is believed, also, that if the party thus injured or annoyed should prefer not to right himself by taking the law into his own hands, a remedy by action would be open to him. The books are full of analogous cases, in which the party injured has sometimes adopted the one and sometimes the other, of these two modes of redress. Thus in 2 Salkeld, 459, and in Clark vs. Penruddock, 5 Coke, 101, 102, the cases of "one building his house so as to overhang mine," and of "one building a house so near mine as to throw water upon mine," are referred to as cases of nuisances which are subject to be removed by force without the intervention of legal proceedings; and on the other hand, the 15th of Mass. Reports, 280, Sumner vs. Finegan, presents a case where an action was sustained against the defendant, for suffering the spouts of his house to be leaky, to the plaintiff's damage. A case more directly in point is that of Pickering vs. Rudd, 4 Campbell's Reports, 220, decided in 1815, wherein it was held that when the defendant nails to his own wall a board which overhangs the plaintiff's close, an action of trespass on the case will be sustained against the defendant.

On the question, whether the proprietor of overhanging fruit has a right to pick it up after it has dropped on his neighbor's land, the law is perhaps somewhat unsettled. In Mitton vs. Fandrye, Popham's Reports, 162, decided in the 22d year of James I., Judge Doderidge quotes with approbation a case from the year books, 8th ed. IV., to the following effect: "If a tree grow in a hedge, and the fruit fall into another man's land, the owner may fetch it in the other man's land. But in Anthony vs. Haney, 7 Bingham's Reports, 192, decided in 1832, the Court limit the operation of this rule to cases where fruit may thus fall by accident; and Chitty, in his General Practice, cites this last case as modifying and settling the law upon this point. Whether fruit falling at its maturity from an overhanging branch can be considered as coming within this rule of accident, or whether license to gather must not be presumed in the absence of notice to remove the nuisance, are questions which the other ascertained rights and remedies of the proprietor who is intruded upon, make of very little practical importance.

The Committee believe that the law on this subject, as they have stated it, though perhaps widely different from the common belief, will yet be found so equitable in its principles and so fair in its operations, as to call for no action of the Legislature. They have gone the more minutely into its details, as they have reason to believe that ignorance of the real state of the law and the exact rights of

parties has led to much petty annoyance and ill feeling between adjoining proprietors. The subject, although one apparently of a most trifling character, has been a source of dissension among the proprietors and jurists of the continent as well as of England, and was thought worthy by the great men who framed the Napoleon Code, of being settled by specific and minute enactment. In the Digest of the Civil Law, it is in one place laid down (lib. 47, 7, 6,) that "though a tree be nourished by roots which strike into the land of a neighbor, yet it shall still belong to him in whose ground it was planted." And in another part of the same digest (lib. 41, 1, 7, 13) it is said in substance, that if a tree be planted in one man's land and derives its nourishment from another's, it shall belong to him from whose land it is nourished; and if it is only partly nourished in his land, it shall belong in common to the proprietor of the land on which it was planted, and of the land by which it is partly nourished.

Some of the provisions of the Code Napoleon on this subject are as follows:

"Art. 671. It is not allowable to plant trees of lofty trunk, but at the distance prescribed by regulations actually existing, or by constant and acknowledged usages; and in default of regulations and usages, only at the distance of two metres from the line which separates two estates in trees of lofty trunk, and at the distance of half a metre in the case of other trees and quick hedges.

"Art. 672. A neighbor may require trees and hedges planted at a less distance, to be pulled up.

"He whose property is overshadowed by the branches of his neighbor's trees, may compel the latter to cut off such branches.

"If it be the roots which encroach on his estate, he has a right to cut them therein himself."

Your Committee repeat that neither the above regulations, so far as they differ from our own law, nor any other which have occurred to them, appear to them at once so well adapted to secure the rights of parties, and so free from the imputation of harassing and arbitrary interference, as the rules of common law now in force in relation to this subject. They, therefore, recommend no legislation, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

For the Committee,

GEO. T. DAVIS.

SILK CULTURE.

The following communication being entirely free from the visionary and speculative character belonging to many articles upon the subject, is readily admitted to our columns.

Mr Editor—Permit me through the medium of your useful paper, to give a short account of my doings in the silk-growing business the past season. I shall omit for the present most of the details which are usually given in statements of this kind.

My feeding commenced at the usual time in the spring, with a small lot of the grey, or what are called sulphur worms. The eggs were obtained from Philadelphia, as my whole supply of this article had failed, from being kept in too damp a place during the winter. At the same time I set agoing a smaller lot of small white or two crop worms, for the purpose of getting eggs to go on with. From these I obtained a full supply of eggs for my summer's work. The hatching, feeding and winding all went on according to my wishes.

My shelves were three times filled. First with the greys, second with the early second hatching of the whites, and finally with a later company of the same kind.

I used the same bushes over and over again; for on this article most of my cocoons were wound. They had been used for the same purpose in a former year, and now I have laid them by for future use. I have tried various methods for winding, as recommended by the writers on this subject, but still incline for the most part to the old bushing system.

My operations were on a small scale, but all went on with entire success, producing between thirty and forty bushels of good cocoons, besides all which were used for making eggs as above described, and enough for a much larger operation another year.

My trees are small, surrounding my cocoonery, and the leaves were gathered with great facility and little cost; they are of almost all the varieties now in use, as the White, Canton, Alpine, Expansa, but mostly the Multicaulis; and on this latter kind most of my feeding was performed.

All my silk culture was in connexion with farming operations, and my plans are laid for pursuing the business in the same way in future.

Between 4 and 500 bushels of turnips for stock were raised with very little labor between the rows of my trees, on between 3 and 4 acres, besides large quantities which were fed out, tops and all, as the crop was maturing.

I have studied many rules for the management of worms, and for conducting the whole of the silk making business; and am fully satisfied that the most important part of it is to feed the worms well with leaves fresh and good, through the day, and if convenient, in the night, with branches or without them. It is quite immaterial to these voracious feeders, in what form their food is dealt out to them. Their progress, maturity and fullness of growth are all essentially promoted by a full supply. Leaves, leaves, is their motto—not by weight or measure, but as many as they can steadily consume.

My white mulberry leaves I use for my first feeding; the trees are in a nursery of many thousands, very close together, and instead of picking the leaves, I take them off branches and all, and in the same manner I have managed with a part of my other trees, and for the future I intend to do so with them all. This method makes more litter, it is true, but the expedition with which the feeding is carried on, and the more healthy position of the worms on beds made in this way, much more than compensates for any disadvantages which it may incur.

I have done something in this business for a number of years, but the past season was the first of my experiment on leaves mostly of modern trees; and I consider I have fully tested their fitness as the proper food for worms, and also the entire adaptation of our country, climate and soil, for the silk-growing business, and the practicability of its successful pursuit.

I am furthermore fully satisfied from the difference I have seen in my Chinese trees, which have been planted a number of years in this part of the country, that they are becoming assimilated to the climate, and that in a few years they will take a rank among more hardy trees for general or permanent use.

Yours, respectfully,

DAVID BENEDICT.

Pawtucket, R. I., Jan. 27, 1841.

For the N. E. Farmer.

SIGNS.

Mr Editor—Farmers, from the nature of their occupation, are constant observers of signs. To them, changes in the weather is a matter of great importance. Accordingly, they are from day to day on the look-out to watch the various indications by which these changes are known, or supposed to be known. Old and experienced farmers frequently acquire great tact, if I may call it so, in predicting changes in the weather. It is a study requiring much discrimination and careful observation of a series of facts,—a study, which should be begun with the farmer's life and end only when his toils and his life are ended. For this purpose, a farmer should keep a regular note book, in which his observations are recorded. In this way he will soon learn that many of the signs which he has been accustomed to regard as certain, are some of them uncertain, and others entirely false and unworthy of confidence. He will be enabled to separate the wheat from the chaff, and to retain the one and discard the other.

But for the want of some such journal or memorial, many farmers adopt all the prognostics they happen to hear of, as sure and indubitable. They are thus led to shape their course by the most fickle and silly rules. From the multitude of signs collected together, they generally find one or more by which to predict the state of the weather tomorrow, and when tomorrow comes, they almost as generally find their predictions falsified. It may be said that this evil cures itself—that frequent disappointment will cause the farmer to disregard all signs. But it is not so: a favorite sign is clung to, as if the reputation of its observer for judgment and discernment, were hung upon it. There is a passion, too, in many minds in this matter, just as there is in lotteries—a passion which ill luck seems rather to strengthen than to diminish.

One great stimulant to this passion is the almanac, a book which occupies the next place to the bible, on every farmer's shelf. Here the changes of the moon are recorded, and their record is consulted with anxious hopes and fears. What influence the changes of the moon has, if any, upon the changes of the weather, I do not feel competent to decide; but I believe it is far less and far less certain than it is in general supposed to be. Then there is the running account for each month, of the probable state of the weather in that month, for which the almanac is consulted. For instance, in one month you will find it recorded, "About this time—look out—for a storm—with cool nights," &c. &c. The poor farmer reads the oracle and *looks out*—the storm and the cool nights may come and they may not come—but at all events, he keeps *looking out*, through the year and through the almanac. This is but an unprofitable business, to say the least of it.

The evil, however, does not stop here. The habit of mind engendered by this trusting to vague and ridiculous signs respecting the weather, induces or strengthens a tendency to rely upon signs in other matters. The good old almanac must be

consulted, forsooth, when a calf is to be weaned, to see if the signs are right. Thus a mere arbitrary division of the month is made the great regulator of a subject, with which that division has nothing more to do than with the man in the moon. Some will contend that they have tried the operation of weaning when the signs are right and also when they are not right, and know by experience that in the former case the calf does well, and in the latter, does not. Now it is true that facts are facts, but before they are made the ground-work of practice, they should be well tested. A single fact proves nothing, in cases like this: it may be a mere coincidence, which may not again occur. Besides, when the mind is bent on supporting a particular theory, it is exceedingly apt to look only for facts, and at facts which go to support that theory, and to shut its eyes to those of the opposite character. If the mind were open to conviction from every quarter, and not biassed by preconceived opinions, the result of its observations would be more entitled to confidence. And it is the duty and the interest of every farmer to preserve his mind from all bias and prejudice, either for or against any theory—to keep the mind free to follow in that pathway in which a series of incontestable facts clearly points. By long and patient observation and careful discrimination, it is in the power of the humblest farmer to render the greatest service to the agricultural interest; but by adopting indiscriminately all the whimsical signs floating through the community, he only perpetuates error and ignorance, and obstructs the progress of improvement.

In my next, I will, with your leave, continue my remarks by considering the kindred subject of omens. A PLAIN FARMER.

For the N. E. Farmer.

BERKSHIRE AND CHINA SWINE.

Mr Editor—I have lately become a subscriber to the Albany Cultivator, (having taken the New England Farmer before,) and in the former I find so much of breeding in-and-in, grades, crosses, &c., that I feel cross at my own ignorance, and knowing no better way to remedy the evil than to try and gather some little experimental knowledge, I would solicit your good offices in finding me a true *white* China boar, at a moderate price, and not being willing to pay for moonshine, I would stipulate that he must be of the true blood, and not like our Berkshires that we have in this vicinity, a cross between a black hog and an alligator, decent in form but miserable feeders, gaining less than half a pound a day on good food, and withal *black*—a thing that I abominate. I never wish to see a hog over three hundred in weight, (at twelve months, two hundred and fifty,) and if agreeable to his pigship, I should be pleased to have him take on fat kindly and eat what I give him, with some decent relish, from respect to the giver, if for no other reason, and not, when I throw to him a good mess of cooked carrots and corn, root it over a moment and then look up in my face and squeal, reminding one of the apprentice in Baltimore, who complained of his master for "starving" him. "Why," said the magistrate, "what does he give you to eat?" "Why—why—" lisped the scamp, "nothing but bread, and potatoes, and beef, and mutton, and such like!" "Well, what would you have?"—"Why—why—plum pudding, and cake, and roast turkey, and such like!"—though I believe the highest class of hog feeding would not make our misnamed Berkshires fat well. I say misnamed, because I cannot but believe from such respectable evidence as we get from York State, that the Berkshires are a better hog; but they are black, and I should like to have the pleasure of breeding white hogs, and think, could I get a white China boar, I could breed up some of our best native hogs to my mark. My course would be to go into Brighton market often, and select the best white sows that came there, cover them with the China boar, and then breed back to the China, taking but one cross; should not that one give sufficient size and hardihood, after I had bred up sufficiently I would take another, and if this failed, should stop, not having wit or wisdom enough to know what next to do. Would this course give me good pigs? Will you or your correspondents answer me and oblige

A BEGINNER.

Boston, Feb. 2, 1841.

From the Albany Cultivator.

EXPERIMENT WITH POTATOES.

Before closing this communication, I would beg leave to give you some of my Irish potato experiments, for since I had the good luck to fall in with your valuable paper, I have seen a number of experiments and theories in relation to the cultivation of this valuable root, some of which I believed, others which I doubted, and others which I wholly disbelieved; and as our country (American Bottom near St. Louis,) is not only destined to be, but now actually is, one of the greatest potato growing sections in the west, I thought that any information on the culture of this root would be necessary to myself and perhaps useful to others.

And first, I will say the potatoes were all planted the same distance apart both ways; the only difference is in the quantity in the hill, and the preparation and quality of the seed. The question among potato growers here is on these points—not on the quality of the ground, the newer it is the better—not on the variety of the article; the large blue taking the decided preference of all others, the Rohans not excepted—not on the kind or manner of manuring; for we scarcely manure our gardens here—not on the mode of culture; all plant and plough them like their corn, only nearer both ways.

I planted five rows side by side, and the hills I experimented on side by side; and

1st row, cut the common size, that is one large potato cut into 4 or 6 pieces, 4 pieces in a hill.
2d row, 4 pieces in a hill, cut a ssmall again
3d " 2 " " " smallest round ones.
4th " 1 " " " largest, without cutting.
5th " 2 " " " of same size potato.

I proceeded to dig two hills in each row, and count the number of potatoes in each two hills, and also to weigh them. The result was as follows:

1st	row counted	53	potatoes, weighing	10 3-4	lbs.
2d	" "	62	" "	10 3-4	"
3d	" "	36	" "	8 1-4	"
4th	" "	37	" "	12 3-4	"
5th	" "	31	" "	8 1-4	"

I observed that those in row 2, had the most small ones and the fewest large ones—the large whole seed certainly furnished the largest potatoes, without any small ones—the balance were pretty much alike in point of quality. What is the most surprising is that rows 1 and 2, should yield precisely the same weight of potatoes, when only hah the quantity of seed was used in the second row, and the only difference is being cut again, having the same number of pieces in a hill, they being only half as large; thus itseems that they ought not to be crowded in the hill. Row 3 with about the same quantity, produced but 8 1-4 pounds which is a bad yield. Row 5 a good yield for the quantity of seed—one fourth the quantity of seed and two thirds the quantity of potatoes compared with the best row 4, (the large whole seed.) Therefore if we want a large yield of potatoes, plant the large ones whole, although they will not go as far as to cut them.

We have cultivated the famous Rohans for the last two years, but they will not begin to compare with our Illinois blues, neither in quality or yield; the blues will, I am satisfied, beat them twentyfive per cent. in both these respects.

THOMAS G. LOFTON.

From the same.

MANY CROP EXPERIMENTS.

I have before made known in the columns of the Cultivator, my entire success in a double crop, as to Irish potatoes and pumpkins; or that by planting pumpkins among potatoes after the vines of the latter were of some size, a fine crop of the former overspread the ground, rather to the healthful shading than to the detriment of the potatoes matured underneath.

Of late years I have sowed buckwheat and rye at the same time and on the same ground; and success attended. The buckwheat was cut in the fall, and rye the following harvest. Again, in our hot climate, [North Carolina] and on our light sandy soil, I have hit upon a plan that renders red clover of as certain growth and success as in the Northern States, if not more so. It is by covering the ground with pine leaves after the wheat and clover are sowed; or cover the wheat in the winter and sow the clover in the spring. Last September a year, I sowed a piece of ground with wheat, and clover on the fresh earth immediately after the wheat was harrowed in, and soon after put over most of the surface pine leaves. The wheat and clover were both essentially benefited by the covering, and a remarkable contrast to that left uncovered to test the utility of the plan.

The fifth of August last, I resolved upon a fourfold operation on a piece of ground, and after sowing thereon buckwheat and rye, and then clover, I covered most of it with pine leaves, straw, and green pine boughs, or with the different materials in different places, coated over about an inch thick. The result promises to be very satisfactory; and a most decided difference in favor of the ground thus covered. I had the curiosity, the 5th of October, to measure the buckwheat from a corner of the piece, less than a quarter of an acre, and the produce was five and a half bushels. Both the rye and clover look very promising for next year's crops. Very respectfully, yours,

SIDNEY WELLER.

The most honorable, the most useful, the most independent of men, is the well-informed farmer, who cultivates his own soil, and enjoys the advantages that health, competence, and intelligence are sure to bestow.

Since the discussion was held at the State House upon Grasses, an intelligent farmer has drawn our attention to an article in No. 1, vol. viii., 1824, of the Agricultural Journal, edited by the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, to which work their late president, John Lowell, most beneficially contributed. The notices of the seasons by the "Roxbury Farmer," will long be recollected by all cultivators who have read our agricultural journals. As requested, we most cheerfully republish the article above referred to.

GRASSES.

BY HON. JOHN WELLES.

In the Agricultural Journal of January last, I offered some observations on grasses, and gave the result of an experiment shewing their loss by exsiccation or the process of drying, in the summer of 1822. This subject has been pursued during the past season, and still farther extended. The variation, in the comparison of the two years, is not, it is apprehended, greater, (except in one or two instances which will be explained) than will often occur from the nature of the soil, difference of season, closeness of vegetation, exposure to the sun, &c. &c. As far as a general principle may be established by experiment, it will, in some degree, go to fix the relative value of our natural grasses, as they prevail in our pastures, or of those artificial grasses which should be selected as fit objects of cultivation. In collecting these several species, I have found the natural grasses which generally prevail in this neighborhood, so few in number, that a short and yet sufficient description of them could be most properly first given with advantage.

The earliest grass we have is the Avena spicata (Linn.) or spiked oat grass. It is peculiarly indigenous to the United States, and grows, it is said, as far south as Georgia. This grass ripens so early that it mostly sheds its seed, and thus reproduces itself, and is widely propagated. For this reason, as well as from its short growth, it is undeserving of culture, yielding little to the scythe. But it is of great value for early feed in our natural pastures, in which it abounds. One hundred pounds cut on the 15th July last, gave fifty pounds of hay.

The next grass which we shall mention is the Poa pratensis, (Linn.) with us falsely called Red top, a color it never has. This, both in Europe and America, is the common and prevailing grass of the pastures. It grows in almost every soil and situation, and is one of those materials which, as that excellent botanist, Mr Nuttall, of Cambridge, informs me, is used in Europe for the manufacture of bonnets. The color of its top, or panicle, is of a yellowish brown. The number of florets in the spike vary from three to five. The seed is sometimes saved and sown; but these fine spired grasses have so minute a seed, that, either from exposure to dampness and fermentation, or some other causes, which it is difficult to prevent or discover, they too often fail of vegetating, by which great injury and disappointment occurs in the wished-for crop.—Though this grass is amongst those which lose the least in drying, yet, as it presents little to the scythe, it cannot be recommended for culture. It is excellent in our pastures, and comes in naturally as the artificial grasses go out of our mowing lots. Indeed it has a preference with our farmers generally, for horned cattle, over every other grass. One hundred pounds cut July 17, gave fortysix pounds. It was past flowering.

The notice of our prevailing natural grasses might here be closed, but as the grasses which we shall next describe appear in our pastures, as well as our cultivated grass land, and are mentioned by several writers in answer to the question proposed by the Society, as to "what natural grasses prevail in this part of the country," we shall give their description here.

The grass here called Rhode Island, is the Agrostis alba, (Linnæus) the Marsh Bent grass of England, or the Agrostis stolinifera, Schrader, German. Mr Nuttall, to whom I exhibited a sample, pronounces it the famous Fiorin grass of Dr. Richardson and the Irish agriculturists, on the authority of Hooker, who describes "the panicle thereof as purple, and the branchlets patent." The color, at first of the branchlets is of a deep red, and they adhere closely to the spike, but as they flower they become patent and change to a lighter purple. This grass has six to eight branchlets, and flowers more fully than the Poa pratensis though often confounded therewith. It is amongst those which lose least by evaporation, and would be a more favorable object of cultivation, were it not liable to the same uncertainty as to its vegetating and producing a crop as the preceding grass, and, from probably a like cause. In Ireland it is said to suit a wet soil, and to produce over six tons to the acre. In this country it does not flourish in such soil, nor does it give a great crop, especially compared with the Herds grass. Still the hay is very excellent, and perhaps not exceeded by any other for its intrinsic value in nutriment. One hundred pounds in early flower, cut July 17th, gave forty pounds.

The grass, in the answer given to the Society called Cambridge, Dog and Garden grass, is the Triticum repens. Dr. Elliot calls it the "hurtful blue or Dutch grass." In England it is called couch, knot, or dog grass. Every joint of its root produces a new plant, and it is said to be there, as it is found here, one of the worst weeds and most difficult to extirpate. It resembles wheat, of which it is a species. The best mode to destroy it is to keep the lands longer under the plough, with a frequent use of the hoe, as where this is not done, two years ploughing only not merely multiplies, but occasions it to engross the whole soil. It has a hard woody fibre and is disliked by cattle. It flourishes mostly near cow-yards, and gardens, and is called Cambridge, from its abounding on the salt banks of the Charles river. One hundred pounds cut July 22d, in late flower, gave forty-eight pounds.

The grasses above described are those which prevail in our uplands, and are indigenous here. They are, probably, most of them what Dr. Elliot, in his Field Husbandry, denominates English Spear grass, and speaks of as natural to the soil and more hardy. The term English has been applied to our upland hay, ever since the settlement of the country. These, with the red and white clover, and the varieties which nature, in a course of culture, or otherwise, produces, are what give verdure and fertility to the face of the earth.

Of the cultivated grasses, the first in importance is the Herds or Timothy grass, Phleum pratense (Linnæus.) Dr. Elliot says "it is a native, and early discovered in this country by a man of the name of Heard, in Piscataqua." It is doubtless admirably suited to our soil and climate, and not only flourishes in uplands, but may be sowed to advantage in low grounds, especially when drained or raised with gravel or loom. It often attains in height five feet, and has been known to produce over four tons to the acre. It does not yield much till the second and third years. For which reason it is sown with clover, which being biennial and of shorter duration, gives it space to succeed. In this vicinity, such is the preference given to it, that it sells at about one fourth more than any other hay. It lasts, with one or two top-dressings, six to seven years. The answers to the inquiries of the Society as to the quantity of seed sown, are two to six quarts. There should not be less seed than half a bushel to an acre, which later experience establishes most decidedly. One hundred pounds cut July 11th, gave thirtynine.

Red clover (Trifolium pratense) is a most valuable grass: when cut green, it affords an excellent nourishment for cattle in the soiling process, as well as for swine. When made into hay, cattle are exceedingly fond of it. The flower and leaves are apt to separate from the stem, for which reason great care should be taken that it is not made brittle by too much exposure to the sun. It is best cured, as far as may be, in cock, and should be carted after the dew begins to fall. When properly dried, salt is used advantageously, as it may be housed with safety, more green than any other hay. This prevents fermentation and heating, and it is kept in better order. Many in this vicinity not only salt their clover, but all other hay. Lord Somerville observes that he "uses half a bushel of salt to a ton, and its benefit surpasses all belief, producing the best possible effect in color, flavor, and general result;" with damaged hay, he says "it is a great restorative."

The benefit of salt in the culture of the soil being now so generally acknowledged, and the use of it so necessary for cattle in the interior or remote from the sea coast, it is difficult to assign a reason why its use is not more prevalent. To land highly manured, two to four pounds of seed in this neighborhood is used. But in the interior some apply eight pounds, and many more. One hundred pounds cut July 6th, gave twentyfive pounds.

The white clover (Trifolium repens,) is an abiding grass, sending out roots from every joint, and forming a close mat on the ground, and is very excellent for pastures. But it is found to afford so little to the scythe as to discourage the culture thereof. One hundred pounds cut June 26th, gave twentyseven pounds.

Of the grasses which grow in our meadows two only have been tried. The fowl meadow, which Dr. Elliot supposed to have been brought to Dedham by birds, is said to be the Poa nemoralis or marsh meadow grass of England.

It is an excellent grass and deserving of culture. It is believed, however, to have extended itself more by its shedding its seed early than by any artificial means. One hundred pounds cut July 23, gave fiftythree pounds.

The common grasses of our wet meadows it is believed, are various kinds of carex. This in all its varieties is a poor grass, and where the land can be ditched and made to produce a better growth, the means should be taken. It is a bad economy to flood lands with mere water for a long time, to increase a nearly worthless burthen. The effect is to destroy all sweet nutritive tender plants.—One hundred pounds cut 23d July, gave fortyfour pounds.

The "Marine Fox-tail grass," which is the pre-

vailing grass of our salt marshes, we receive from nature without knowing how to aid in its increase. One hundred pounds cut July 18th, gave sixty pounds.

The Black grass (Juncus bulbosus) grows principally where the water is freshened by streams from the uplands. It is the most valuable salt grass we have and but little inferior to upland grass, we know no means of artificial increase. One hundred pounds, cut July 18th, gave thirtyeight pounds.

We have too far trespassed on the time of the readers to do more than allude to some of those grasses which have been introduced and proved unsuitable for our culture.

The Wild Oat grass (Avena elatior) with the Rye Ray or Durnel grass with which it is said to be confounded, are often seen in our pastures and meadows, but animals seldom touch them. They have a strong woody fibre and afford little nutriment, though well spoken of south of us as well as in Europe.

The Burnet scarcely shews itself for a year and then disappears.

The Succory has been praised by Mr Arthur Young, that distinguished agriculturist, who sent it to Gen. Washington. It has been introduced here, is disliked by cattle, and has become one of the most troublesome intruders in our fields. These with the St. Foin and Lucerne and many others have passed away and seem to have ceased with us to excite expectation. Of the Orchard grass or cocks-foot (Dactylis glomerata) the trials I have witnessed do not enable me to speak so decisively as one of the trustees, Mr Prince does, who approves of it. It may be considered as in a course of experiment.

My desire, sir, in the preceding, has been to aid in exciting an attention to the best means of culture for our grass lands. The process of sowing grass seeds was far from universal within the recollection of many in this country and is lamentably insufficient now. Its neglect has been complained of even in Europe. It has been contended that nature would furnish according to her own capacity the power of increase in this particular. Thus the soil was to be furnished with the means of promoting vegetation by labor and art. But here these were to stop, and the stimulating principles were to evaporate and be wasted, and one or two good crops lost in waiting for this slow process.

But the blindness of this doctrine is vanishing before the light and improvement of the present age. We learn from experience that the earth presents to industry and skill her ceaseless efforts, and never pauses but from our neglect.

Subjoined is a table showing the loss of weight in drying grasses. The White clover of 1822, was taken in the shade. That of 1823, from a light warm soil exposed to the sun. The Red clover in 1823, was taken in the first year of its product, in close growth, and for that reason falls short of 1822. The Salt grass of 1822, was, I have reason to suppose, a second growth, which accounts for the difference of the two years.

	1822	1823
100 lbs. of green White clover gave—	17½	27
" " Red clover	27½	25
" " Herds grass	40	39
" " Fresh meadow	38	44
" " Salt grass	39	60
" " 2d crop or English Rowan	18¾	19
" " Corn stalks	25	25
100 lbs. of Spiked Oat grass gave		50
" " Red Top		46
" " Rhode Island		40
" " Couch grass		48
" " Marine Black grass		38

For the New England Farmer.

CAN MEAL BE COOKED BY STEAM?

ALLEN PUTNAM, ESQ.—Sir—When conversing with you in December last, you stated to me your doubts in regard to the use of steamers, as far as respects the scalding of meal, and expressed a desire to learn the result of the experiments I might make. I am now fully satisfied that your doubts are correct, and begin to be dissatisfied with my steamer, as I think I shall be with all that are on a small scale, and have some thoughts of disposing of mine for another purpose, and trying Mott's Agricultural Furnace.

I see by the N. E. Farmer of this week, that the corn [the "Hartwell"] of which you spake to me as coming from Southbridge, has been received. If Messrs Breck & Co. can spare me a bushel, and you will be kind enough to name it to them, I should be glad to have it. W. C. C.

Providence, Jan. 28, 1841.

SUITABLE DRESS.

The labors of the farmer are nearly all such as require a free use of the limbs, especially the arms; cast off, then, those useless, inconvenient bands of the shoulders—those braces; let the lower garments be made short, so as to button close above the hips; lengthen the vest—a coat to meet them—the expense of the latter being nearly or quite saved in the former; and when you go forth to labor, lay aside the outer garment, and nothing restrains the free use of the arms, save the loose shirt. In mowing, raking, or pitching hay; in cradling, reaping, binding or handling grain to the the barn; in shovelling, chopping, threshing, fencing, draining, ploughing—in short, in almost any labor the farmer has to perform, such an arrangement of his dress would aid him much—how much, he can not know until he has tried it. I have long proved it by experiment, and, although out of fashion, shall still continue it.

Again—it is thought because the farmer shovels manure, holds the plough, drives the team, and does a hundred other things, that therefore he must, of course, be constantly dirty, not fit to be seen; but it is not so: a *shovel* is made to handle the manure with, and following the plough or driving the team, may be done without getting dirty, if one is suitably dressed. Every farmer should have a frock—a sort of over-all, to put on outside his vest or coat, as the weather may require, coming just below the knees, and buttoning in front, with a belt around the waist, two pockets, in which to rest his hands, when not immediately engaged—a great luxury—to be made of cotton for summer, and woollen for winter. Such a frock is put on or off without trouble; there is no putting over the head, and it catches all the flying dust that comes from rubbing against the team and elsewhere, and leaves the clothes at the end of the week as clean almost as they were on the Monday morning. It saves *much* in a cleanly man's feelings; *more* in the wear and tear of garments, and *most of all* in the labor and patience of the women, who of course, deserve, and that righteously, to be consulted in such matters.—*Yankee Far.*

Great Yield.—In the Ithaca Chronicle we find the following statement of the amount and value of production from *one fourth acre of land* in that village, cultivated by Mr Aaron Curtis, who furnished it for publication.

150 bushels of onions at 50 cts.	$70
600 heads of cabbages, at 5 cts.	30
50 bushels of beets, at 50 cts.	25
	$125

120 sugar beet seed produced 1,125 lbs. of beets, or 22 1-2 bushels, occupying 1 1-2 rod of ground, yielding at the rate of 2,400 bushels per acre. Such crops as the above, and those produced by the editor of the Maine Cultivator, Mr Drew, on his acre of land, prove the profit of cultivating but a little land, and doing it well, in a most forcible manner. —*Alb. Cult.*

Good Crops in Old Connecticut.—The New Haven Register says that Mr Wilmot, of West Haven, the past season raised two hundred and seventy bushels of corn and ten bushels of potatoes, on three acres of land; and the Bridgport Standard states that Mr Ellsworth raised on a single acre of land, two hundred and forty bushels of ears of Dutton corn.—*Ib.*

LAW AGAINST TOBACCO.—The following blue-law it is said, was enacted by the colonies of Connecticut and Massachusetts, as early as 1630:

"Be it enacted, That no person under the age of 20, nor any other not already habituated to it, shall use tobacco until he has brought a certificate from a physician, stating that it is necessary for his health, when he shall receive a license from the Court. Those who have already addicted themselves to this obnoxious weed, are hereby prohibited from using it in company, at their labor, or on their travels, unless they are at least ten miles from any house; and that only once a day, under a penalty of sixpence for each offence, of which the constables are requested to give information to the District Court. For the fourth breach of the law, the offender shall be imprisoned and kept at hard labor for a time specified, when his tongue shall be burnt through with a red hot iron."

RAPID INCREASE OF ANIMALS.—Naturalists who have spent much of their lives in the study of very small insects, and who have used the most powerful telescopes, relate wonderful stories of their rapid increase. A scorpion, they say, will produce 65 young at a time; a common fly will lay 144 eggs; a leech 150; a spider 170; a female moth 1100; a gall insect 5000.

One naturalist found 12,000 eggs in a lobster; 6000 in a shrimp. Another found 21,000 in a lobster. An insect like an ant has produced 80,000 in a day. Leuwenhoeck computes 4,000,000 in a crab.

A new kind of wheat has been introduced into South Carolina, which is selling rapidly at $5 a single head! The Albany Cultivator says it is an old humbug in a new dress. It is now called Santa Fe, or Osage wheat. It "can't come in."

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10, 1841.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

The Editorial department of this paper having come into the hands of the subscriber, he is now authorized by the publishers to inform the public that the price of the paper is reduced. In future the terms will be $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days.

ALLEN PUTNAM.

N. B.—Postmasters are required by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

Mr Geo. Tappan is our agent at New Bedford, Mass.

FOURTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

The Agricultural Commissioner opened the discussion upon live stock, by remarking that in this vicinity we have several distinct breeds of cattle, and also many intermixtures or crosses. The original of what we call our native stock, he believed to have been the Durham (Devon?) of fine dark red color. In some cases these have been crossed with the Yorkshire, a large and course breed. In other cases the cross has been with the Holderness, which are great milkers, though the milk is not rich. The Herefords are large, white in the face, and are doing very well in England.

The improved Durham Short-horns produced originally by Mr Bakewell, have been for the greater part of the last half century among the most approved in England. There are two lines or races of these in Great Britain—one famous for milking properties. We have had several individuals of this race, which when pure are symetrical and every way beautiful. Mr C. himself had owned several, but they had failed to meet his expectations, and were at best but ordinary cows.

The Ayreshires are in good repute, and Mr Cushing, of Watertown, is giving them a fair trial. He is very generously giving his young stock to the neighboring farmers, and thus affording our community opportunity to compare this with other breeds.

Some of our native cows are as good for the churn as any of which we have accounts. But the excellent qualities of these animals are accidental; we cannot depend upon their transmission. Care, and long-continued care, in the selection of breeders is necessary for fixing good properties. Our question now is, whether the imported stock, or the improved native is best for New England. We have an herd formed or forming from a cross of a native cow with the imported bull Coelebs, which is extraordinary for richness of milk.

Here Col. Jaques, of Charlestown, who is forming this herd, rose and addressed the meeting. He had long held the opinion that to meet the requirements of New England soil and climate, it might be important to form a breed of our own. For the purpose of effecting this, he started by the purchase of a bull in 1819, for which he paid $500. This bull, Coelebs, was selected in England, and though he has not his pedigree, he believes him to have been of the Collins' stock, (by which, if we understood him, we are to infer that he was full or nearly full-blooded Durham.) After inquiring and looking long for a suitable cow with which to begin his course, Mr Haskins, of Roxbury, purchased one in Groton, that promised to answer his purpose. This cow's points were good; flank deep, touch elastic and silky. Coelebs was put to her, and she brought first a heifer calf, and next a bull. These were called Young Groton and Young Coelebs. Subsequently, Col. J. obtained these animals together with the first calf of Young Groton. These are the parents of his herd. Young Groton, the first season of being milked, gave sixteen qts. per day. The family name now is *Cream Pot*—Don Cream Pot, Betty Cream Pot, &c. At this time the family numbers something like sixty.

He thinks much of *blood*—goes for *blood*. Give him time, *nine generations*, and he will breed to order, any color or any shape. Got his first instruction from Jacob; though he thinks there was something besides the peeled sticks producing the results of old. Formerly he fed his stock with a *silver spoon*—fed high; but latterly has given no grain; hay and grass, with from one to two pecks of roots per day to *cows in milk* make his feed. Some pretend that it is *feed* which makes the difference in animals—he says it is the *blood*. As well might you, by manuring, think to make out of the wild pear a St. Michael's, as to produce the peculiar excellences of a breed of animals by the feed. He however, would feed well. The milk from his cows is very rich; the cream is very thick, and yields very little buttermilk. He maintains that 100 pounds of the cream will make 95 pounds of butter. From one of his cows he makes one pound of butter to each four quarts of milk. The cream can be converted into butter by beating it with the spoon in a bowl, in the short space of one or two minutes. This was actually performed on two separate parcels, in the presence of the assembly at the State House. The color, however, was not much changed: it remained white; but we understood that in the course of twentyfour hours it usually becomes of very good butter color. In this case we saw *no* buttermilk.

Many of the remarks by this gentleman we are obliged to omit for want of room. We take the liberty to thank him for the sprightly and interesting manner in which he made his narration, and we most heartily wish him success in his efforts to make for our community an improved dairy stock. We doubt not that he has started upon the right course.

Mr Sheldon, of Wilmington, well acquainted with his subject, next favored us with the points of the good working ox. The head should be long and slender. The short-headed ox may start tolerably quick at the whip, but he will soon forget it. The eye should be sharp but pleasant. The black-eyed ox is apt to run away. For strength he should have a full bosom. For travelling, the legs should be straight, and the ancle smaller than the foot; the toe should be directly forward. If the animal should toe out, the knee will bend in, and the leg will be as much weaker than a straight one, as a crooked stick is weaker than a straight one for bearing a weight placed upon the top: with such a form, the inside claw is liable to be strained. Avoid, he says, the long peaked hoof. Let the back be straight from head to tail—though from the hips backward if he slope a little it is not much of a fault; but do not let him rise in that part For hardihood, the round built or round ribbed ox—one that is not in danger of knocking his hips off in going through the woods is best. He would have them trained to the yoke when quite young. Three pair early put to work, and not overworked, would do as much labor as four pair that are not broken until they have nearly attained their growth. A boy put to the trade of a blacksmith will be much stronger than if his employment is to measure tapes and laces. Almost any horse may be made to draw before oxen. He would never harness a colt for the first time at any other hour than in the morning, when he had the full day before him. He would not use the whip. Nor would he have the colt headed from home. Let his head be towards home, and towards the old horse placed a few rods distant and he will draw.

Mr Jones, of West Tisbury, stated that formerly he had spent considerable time in England, and seen much of the English stock. It is in a high state of improvement. This is true of both cattle and sheep. Both Mr J. and Col. Jacques think well of the South Downs for us. Mr J. doubts whether any breeds of Cattle can be proffitably substituted for ours which are derived from the red Herefords. But ours need much attention in order to bring them up to the excellence which they are susceptible of acquiring.

He had understood that it was in contemplation by the Legislature to cut short the Agricultural Survey. He wished it might go on, was willing to pay ten times his share of the tax. England had paid Arthur Young £70,000 pounds for surveys, and Massachusetts would do well to proceed farther. A board of Agriculture he hopes to see established.

Mr Buckminister likes the Ayreshire and Devon breeds of Cattle. Many of the views and opinions of the previous speakers he recapitulated and approved.

We ventured to inquire of Col. Jacques whether there was any reason to believe that where a pound of butter is obtained from a small quantity of milk, that the butter itself is inferior to that from milk yeilding less cream? If a cow yield seven quarts of milk per day and make seven pounds of butter per week, will her butter be as good as that from a cow which gives eleven quarts per day and makes seven pounds per week? Results, witnessed by us in two or three instances suggested the inquiry. If we comprehended his reply, he would not suppose the quality of butter affected so much by the quantity of milk as by the blood of the animal.

Though our report is somewhat long we have omitted much that was said at this interesting meeting.—The same subject will come up before the meeting again to-morrow evening. After that is diposed of—*The root crops* will be considered.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Several communications are deferred for want of room. One from near Fall River is not forgotten. We are not ready to answer the inquiries it contains.

BOSTON ALMANAC.

Our thanks are given to the publisher, Mr S. N. Dickenson, for a copy of the second edition of this good, very good, Almanac. The extent and arrangement of its matter will render it highly convenient and useful.

MEETING OF FARMERS AT SOUTHBORO.'

On Wednesday evening last we had the pleasure of addressing the farmers of Southboro'. The awakening desire among our agriculturists to gain information relative to the principles of their art, is truly gratifying. It gives us pleasure to contribute our mite whenever opportunity offers. It has been with reluctance that we have yielded to the duty of returning to the city before we could visit the premises of those who have invited us recently to speak to them upon matters pertaining to husbandry. The good people of Newton, Westboro' and Southboro' may depend upon it that when the summer comes we shall steal into their enclosures and take as much knowledge as we have given.

The error of youth is that of thinking itself as wise as age; and the error of age is that of expecting youth to act as prudently as though it had received the benefit of experience.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending Feb. 7.

Jan. 1841.		7A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	8	28	35	30	E.
Tuesday,	9	14	32	14	E.
Wednesday,	10	31	34	22	W.
Thursday,	11	9	26	18	S. W.
Friday,	12	16	36	22	N. E.
Saturday,	13	20	38	33	N. E.
Sunday,	14	22	34	30	N.

BRIGHTON MARKET. — Monday, Feb. 8, 1841.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 460 Beef Cattle, 60 Stores, and 640 Sheep, and 220 Swine. 100 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Better Cattle were at market than we have seen for several weeks; consequently higher prices were obtained, but for a like quality prices were hardly sustained. A very few extra Cattle, $6 25, a $6 50. First quality $5 75 a 6 00. Second quality, $5 00 a $5 50. Third quality, $4 25 a $4 75.

Sheep.—"Dull." Lots at $2 00 and $2 75.—Wethers, $3 50, $4 25, $4 50 and $5 00.

Swine.—One lot of Sows and Barrows at 5 c. A lot to peddle at 4 1-4 for sows, and 5 1-4 for barrows. At retail from 5 to 6 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, very little in market, $3 asked. Red Top, by the bag 60 to 70 c. Clover—Northern, 12 1-2 c. very little in Market.—Southern, plenty, 9 to 10 c. Flax Seed, $1 37 to 1 50 bu. Lucerne, 25 c. per lb.

FLOUR. Howard Street $5 37—Genesee $5 31—Ohio $5 12.

GRAIN. Corn—Northern Yellow 60 to 61 c—Round Yellow 57 to 58—Southern Flat Yellow 55—White 53. Rye—Northern 65 to 67—Southern 60 to 65. Oats—Southern 35 to 38—Northern 40 to 44.

PROVISIONS. Beef—Mess $10 50 to 11 00—Prime $6 50—No. 1 $9 00. Pork—Extra—15 00—Clear 14 50—Mess $13 00. Hams—Northern 9 c. per lb—Southern, none. Lard—Boston 9 c per lb.—Southern, 8 to 8 1-2. Butter—Lump 18 to 22—Firkin 12 to 18—Shipping 8 to 14. Whole Hogs 6 to 6 1-2 c.—Pigs 5 c.

HAY, per ton, $17 to 17 50—Eastern Screwed $12 to 13 50

CHEESE—Old 11 c.—New 8.

EGGS. 20 to 25.

POULTRY—Chickens 10 to 12 1-2 c. per lb.—Turkeys 10 to 11—Geese 7.

WOOL—The market for this article has not experienced any change of late. Pulled Wool is rather scarce, and there is but a limited supply of low Fleeces and of fine Fleeces the stock is also moderate. Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 50 to 55 c.—American full blood, washed, 47 to 50—Do. 3-4 blood, washed, 44 to 46—Do. 1-2 blood, washed, 36 to 40—1-4 and common do, 35 to 37—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 to 28—Do. unwashed, 10 to 14—Bengasi Sheep, 8 to 10—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 to 10—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 43 to 46—No. 1 do. do. 37 to 42—No 2 do do 26 to 30—No 3 do do 18 to 20.

BEES.

The subscribers wish to purchase a few swarms of bees, for which a fair price will be paid.

Feb. 10. JOS. BRECK & CO.

WHITE CARROT.

A quantity of this new and valuable root is offered for sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 52 North Market street.

Also—New Red and Yellow Globe MANGEL WURTZEL—considered a superior variety.

Feb. 10. JOS. BRECK & CO.

NEW FLOWER SEEDS.

The subscribers have received from London a choice collection of Flower Seeds, which, with those raised by themselves, constitute all worthy of cultivation. Price from 6 1-4 to 25 cents per paper. Assortment of those marked 6 1-4 cents, 20 papers for one dollar, and others in the same proportion. JOS. BRECK & CO.

Feb. 10.

GARDEN SEEDS,

For sale by Joseph Breck & Co. at the New England Farmer Office, *No.* 51 and 52 *North Market St. Boston.* The subscribers would inform the public that they have now on hand the largest collection of seeds ever before offered by sale in this city, embracing every variety of *Field, Kitchen, Garden,* and *Ornamental* Flower Seeds desirable for this or any other Climate.

Our seeds are either raised under our own inspection or imported from responsible houses in Europe, and having taken extraordinary pains to obtain such as are pure and genuine, we can confidently recommend them to our customers and friends, and feel assured they will prove satisfactory to all who try them.

Dealers in seeds are requested to forward their orders in season. Boxes for retailing from 8 dolls. and upwards will be sent out on commission allowing a liberal discount and take back what remain unsold.

Letters and orders with good reference will meet with prompt attention.

FIELD SEEDS.

Sugar Beet.	Ruta Baga.
Mangel Wurtzel.	Ballatine's New Royal do.
New Red Globe do. } superior	White Tankard Turnip.
Yellow do. } varieties.	Red do.
Carrot Long Orange.	Red Round do.
" Altringham.	White do.
" New White, extra fine.	White Globe do.
Pumpkin, sorts.	Green Round do.
Wheat—various sorts.	Purple Top Hybrid do.
Barley, do.	Buckwheat.
Rye, do.	Broom Corn.
Potatoes, do.	Millet.
Indian Corn, do.	Buckthorn. } for Hedges.
Oats, do.	Locust. }

GARDEN SEEDS.

Artichoke, Asparagus, Beans of every description, Beets of sorts, Borecole, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Culiflower, Caraway, Celery, of the most improved sorts, Cabbage 20 sorts, Carrot, all the varieties, Cucumber do, Cress, Egg Plant, Endive, Indian Corn, Kale, Leek, Lettuce in great variety, Melons, do. Martynea, Mustard, Nasturtium, Okra, Onion of sorts, Pepper do. Pumpkin do. Parsnip, Parsley, Peas, a very great variety, Rhubarb for tarts, Radish of sorts, Salsify, Squash of sorts, Tomato, Turnip 20 varieties.

SWEET AND POT HERBS.

Thy	Sweet Basil.
Sweet Marjorum.	Lavender.
Sage.	Lemon Balm.
Summersavory.	Anise.

Medicinal Herbs, &c.

ORNAMENTAL FLOWER SEEDS.

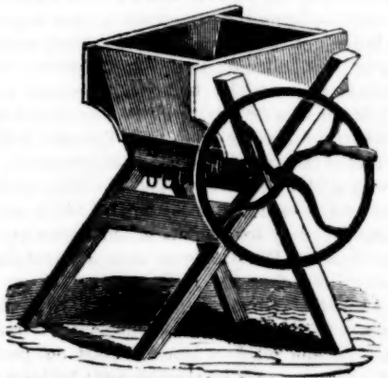
Three hundred varieties, embracing all the finest sorts. Packages of 20 fine sorts for one dollar.

Those who prefer to have their Seeds put up in papers ready for retail, can be accommodated—each packet neatly closed and labelled with printed directions. Price 50 cents, per dozen papers, which are retailed here at 6 1-4 cents each.

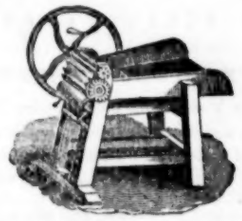
Fruit and ornamental trees, of the greatest variety, supplied at nurseryman's prices, and orders solicited. These will be packed, when required, to go to any part of the U. States. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Jan 27, 1841.

WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.



For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston, Willis's Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.



GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

PURE SPERM OIL.

EDMUND T. HASTINGS. & CO.

No. 101 State St keep constantly for sale, Winter, Spring and Fall Sperm Oil, bleached and unbleached; which they warrant to be of the best quality and to burn without crusting.

Oil Canisters of various sizes.

Boston, Jan. 1, 1841. 1sly

BONE MANURE.

The subscriber informs his friends and the public, that after ten years experience, he is fully convinced that ground bones form the most powerful stimulant that can be applied to the earth as a manure.

Orders for Bone Manure or Oyster Shell Lime, left at the Bone Mill, near Tremont road, in Roxbury, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No 52 North Market Street, or through the Post Office will meet with prompt attention.

March 4, 1840. NAHUM WARD

GRINDSTONES.

An extensive assortment of Water and Hand Grindstones constantly on hand and for sale by AMMI C. LOMBARD & CO. 13 Lewis's Wharf. 1sly. Nov. 17.

TRACE CHAINS.

Just received, direct from the English manufacturer 8 casks of Trace Chains, from 6 to 11 feet long, suitable for ploughing or draft chains. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

FARM FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers for sale that valuable Farm, situated about 3-4ths of a mile below the First Parish Meeting House, on the Stage road, and commonly known as the Judge Prescott farm, containing about 170 acres of superior land, in a good state of cultivation, with two dwelling houses, four barns, and other out buildings. The farm is remarkably well watered with soft water, conveniently fenced, has nearly forty acres of large, handsome wood and timber standing on it, with an orchard of grafted Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, and Cherry trees, and might be easily divided into two Farms. The estate will be sold reasonably. If five thousand dollars be paid on receipt of the deed, the remainder may lay on mortgage to suit the convenience of the purchaser. For further particulars, apply to the subscriber, living on the premises. WM. SALISBURY.

Groton, Oct. 26, 1840. eow.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BOB FLETCHER AND HIS WIFE.

I once knew a ploughman, Bob Fletcher his name,
Who was old and was ugly, and so was his dame,
Yet they lived quite contented and free from all strife,
Bob Fletcher, the ploughman, and Judy his wife.

As the morn streak'd the east, and the night fled away,
They would rise up to labor, refresh'd for the day,
And the song of the lark as it rose on the gale,
Found Bob at the plough and his wife at the pail.

A neat little cottage in front of a grove,
Where in youth they gave their young hearts up to love,
Was the solace of age, and to them doubly dear,
As it called up the past with a smile or a tear.

Each tree had its thought, and the vow could impart,
That mingled in youth the warm wish of the heart;
The thorn was still there and the blossom it bore,
And the song from its top seemed the same as before.

When the curtain of night over nature was spread,
And Bob had returned from the plough to his shed,
Like a dove on her nest he reposed from all care,
If his wife and his youngsters contented were there.

I have passed by the door when the evening was gray,
And the hill and the landscape were fading away,
And heard from the cottage with grateful surprise,
The voice of thanksgiving, like incense arise.

And I thought of the proud who would look down with scorn,
On the neat little cottage, the grove and the thorn,
And felt that the riches and follies of life,
Were dross to contentment, like Bob and his wife.

THE OLD FARM GATE.

Where, where is the gate that once used to divide
The old shaded lane from the grassy road side?
I like not this gate so gay and so bright,
With its glittering latch and its trellis of white.
It is pretty I own, yet oh dearer by far,
Was the red rusted hinge, and the weather warped bar.
Here are fashion and form of a moderized date,
But I 'd rather have looked on that old farm gate.

'Twas there, where my sisters would gather to play
In the shadows of twilight, or sunny mid-day.
How we 'd laugh and run wild mid those hillocks of sand,
Where temptations existed no child could withstand;
But to swing on the gate rails, to clamber and ride,
Was the utmost of pleasure, of glory and pride,
And the car of the victor or carriage of state,
Never carried such hearts as the old farm gate.

Oh fair is the barrier taking its place,
But it darkens a picture my soul longed to trace.
I sigh to behold the rough staple and hasp,
And the rails that my glowing hand scarcely could clasp.
Oh how strangely the warm spirit grudges to part
With the commonest relic once linked to the heart!
And the brightest of fortune, the kindliest fate,
Would not banish my love for the old farm gate!

THE SEA'S BOTTOM.

The bottom of the sea seems to have inequalities like those of the surface of continents. Were it dried up, it would present mountains, valleys and plains. It is covered, almost throughout by an immense quantity of testaceous animals, or those who have shells, intermixed with sand and grain. The bottom of the Adriatic sea is composed of a compact bed of shells, several hundred feet in thickness. A celebrated diver, employed to descend into the Straits of Messina, saw there, with horror, enormous polypi attached to the rocks, the arms of which, being several feet long, were more than sufficient to strangle a man. In many seas, the eye perceives nothing but a bright sandy, plain bottom, extending for several hundred miles without an intervening object. But in others, particularly the Red sea, it is very different. The whole body of this extensive bed of water is, literally speaking, a forest of submarine plants and corals, formed by insects for their habitation, sometimes branching out to a great extent. Here are seen the madrepores, sponges, mosses, sea mushroom, and various other things, covering every part of the bottom.—The bed of many part of the sea, near America, presents a very different, though a very beautiful appearance. This is covered with vegetables, which make it look as green as a meadow; and beneath are seen thousands of turtle, and other sea animals feeding thereon. There are some places of the sea where no bottom has yet been found; still it is not bottomless. The mountains of continents seem to correspond with what are called abysses of the sea. The highest mountains do not rise above 25,000 feet; and, allowing for the elements, some suppose that the sea is not beyond 30,000 feet deep. Lord Mulgrave used, in the Northern Ocean, a very heavy sounding lead, and gave out along with it, cable rope to the length of 4,680 feet without finding bottom. But the greatest depth hitherto sounded was by Captain Scoresby, who, in the Greenland seas, could find no bottom with 1200 fathoms or 7,200 feet of line. According to Laplace, its mean depth is about two miles, which supposing the generally received estimates to be correct, as to the proportion the extent of the water bears to the dry land on the earth's surface, would make 290 millions of cubic feet of water.—*Rev. C. Williams's Works.*

OUR REVOLUTIONARY SIRES.

Alexander Hamilton was hardly of age when he began to play his part in the awful drama of the Revolution, being only 20 when he was taken into the family of the Commander-in-Chief, with the rank of lieut. colonel; Benjamin Franklin was 59 before he began to be heard of; Samuel Adams 44; James Otis 38; John Adams 35; Josiah Quincy 40; John Hancock 38; and Thomas Jefferson 32, before they were greatly distinguished. And so with all the actors of that age. They were full grown men—workingmen—ripened with toil and strengthened by long habits of endurance and self-dependence. WASHINGTON was a surveyor, and in after life a farmer. ("Expressive silence muse his praise!") Knox was a book-binder and stationer. Morgan, (he of the Cowpens,) was a drover,—Tarlton got from him a lecture on that subject. Green was a blacksmith and withal a Quaker, albeit through all his southern campaigns, and particularly at the Eutaw Springs, he put off the outward man. Arnold—(I ask pardon for naming him in such company)—was a grocer and provision store-keeper in New Haven, where his sign is still to be seen—the same that decorated his shop door before the revolution. Gates, who opened Burgoyne's eyes to the fact that he could not "march through the United States with 5000 men," was a "regular built soldier," but after the revolution a farmer. Warren, the martyr of Bunker Hill, was a physician, and hesitated not to exhibit to his countrymen a splendid example of the manner in which American physicians should practice, when called on by their country. Marion, the "Old Fox" of the South, was a cow-boy. Sumpter, the "fighting cock" of South Carolina, was a shepherd's boy. Let it be forever remembered that the men of the revolution were workingmen, those of New England especially:—Green, (as we have stated) was a blacksmith; Franklin a printer; Roger Sherman a shoemaker, and Putnam, Stark and Allen were farmers: not a man of them all above his business or ashamed of his calling.

'They were tinkers, and tailors and cobblers, what then?
Were they not patriots? were they not men?'

POUDRETTE.

This valuable manure may be had on application to the subscriber, at the office of the "*New York Poudrette Company*," No. 120 Nassau street, New York. It is *in-odorous*, and may be transported in barrels, on board of any vessel or steamboat, without offence—and it will be found an exceedingly valuable article as a *fertilizer* on *any* soil, and for *any* crops; but more especially for gardens and flowers, as there are no foul seeds in it. Poudrette has been used for three seasons with entire success on Long Island, by many practical farmers, as may be ascertained from letters and statements made by them, and published at this office in a pamphlet containing also the "*act of incorporation*," granted to the Company by the Legislature of the State of New York; and other facts in relation to the subject. *Price* 35 cents *per bushel*. Barrels cost 25 cents each, and hold 4 bushels. Persons wishing to make an experiment on a small scale can obtain *one barrel* by enclosing a *two* dollar current bank bill—or *three* barrels by enclosing *five* dollars free of postage. *On receipt of the money* the article will be put up and forwarded as directed.

*** Price of shares, one hundred dollars—which entitles the holder to *one hundred bushels* of poudrette annually, during the term of the charter; fifty bushels in time for *spring* use, and fifty bushels in time for *fall* use. Shares taken soon, will be entitled to the spring dividend—and, if desired for experiment, a few bushels may be had this fall.

All orders, or applications in relation to the business, must be made to the subscriber, 120 Nassau street, New York. D. K. MINOR.

☞ I wish it distinctly understood that the "*New York Poudrette Company*" is in no way connected with the "Lodi Manufacturing Company," of which *Anthony Dey* and *Peter Barthelemy* are, or were, the managers.

Dec. 9, 1840. 3m. D. K. M.

POUDRETTE.

The subscribers reside in the state of New Jersey, many of us in the vicinity of the works erected by Anthony Dey, of the city of New York, on the Hackensack river, in New Jersey, for the manufactory of Urate and Poudrette, called "*The Lodi Manufacturing Company.*" We have used the poudrette on the Spring Crops this year, 1840. We find it *a valuable manure, superior to any other kind that we have ever used, and considering the facility of its transportation to the field, the small quantity required in the application to the crops, the quickness of its operation on vegetable matter, and the ease with which it can be applied,*—all tend to recommend its use to the farmer and gardener as *the cheapest and best manure*, and we recommend it accordingly.

Those of us who have applied it to corn and potatoes think that it ripens those vegetables quicker than any other manure by several weeks.

Dated New Jersey, October, 1840.

Jacob D. Van Winkle.	*P. F. Welsh.*
John J. Newkirk.	*G. C. Van Riper.*
John Tise.	*George Tise.*
Daniel Van Riper.	*William Wood.*
George Demott.	*John Duryee.*
Henry Drayton.	*George Newkirk.*
Josiah Hornblower.	*Garret Newkirk.*
Corns. Van Winkle.	*Daniel Vreeland.*

Shares in the above company are $100 each, and may be had by applying to Anthony Dey No. 73 Cedar St. New York.—The owner will receive 20 per cent. per annum, payable in money, or 50 bushels of Poudrette. The price to those who buy Poudrette is 40 cents a bushel. It costs the Stockholders 12 cents a bushel. *One cents worth*, that is, 20 Gills, will manure 20 hills of corn, and the like quantity 15 hills of Potatoes.

Newspapers friendly to agriculture will confer a favor on the Farmers and Gardeners by publishing the above.

Dec. 22.